



Welcome to Country / Acknowledgement of Country Policy

Responsible Officer	Chief Executive Officer
Relevant Delegations	Director Corporate Services
Legislation and References	Local Government Act 1999

Welcome to Country / Acknowledgment of Country

Acknowledgement protocols at Council Meetings and official events can help promote a greater appreciation of Aboriginal culture in the wider community, show respect for Aboriginal People living in the Council area and could lead to better community relationships to assist the reconciliation process.

An Acknowledgement Statement is a way the wider community can acknowledge the culture and ongoing relationship of traditional peoples to land within the Council area. It is a symbolic gesture as part of the ongoing reconciliation process.

Welcome to Country

A Welcome to Country involves traditional Aboriginal People (usually traditional Elders within the local area) welcoming people to their land. This usually occurs at the opening of significant State-wide events or conferences involving visitors from interstate or other countries.

Acknowledgement Statement

The following wording is to be used as the Statement of Acknowledgement for all Ordinary, Special Council meetings, meetings of electors, Committee meetings and official Council hosted events.

"I would like to begin by acknowledging the Ngadjuri people, Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet today, and pay my respects to their Elders past and present. I extend that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples here today."

Council Meeting Protocol

The Acknowledgement Statement will be read out before the Opening Welcome and Prayer, at all Ordinary, Special Council meetings and Committee Meetings

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Meeting of Electors

The Acknowledgement Statement will be read out at the commencement of any council convened meeting of electors in accordance with Section 93 of the Local Government Act 1999.

Official Council Events

The Acknowledgement Statement will be read out at the commencement of any formally or officially hosted Council event

Review & Availability

This policy will be reviewed every four years, or as required.

The public may inspect a copy of this policy without charge at the Council offices during office hours and may obtain a copy for a fee fixed by Council

The policy is also available on Council's website www.claregilbertvalleys.sa.gov.au

References

Local Government Act 1999

Document History

Approved by	Issue Date	Minute Reference – Details of Review
CGVC	17/08/2015	80-15/16 Adopted by Council
CGVC	16/07/2018	Reviewed by Council
CGVC	19/04/2021	Reviewed by Council changed the "Acknowledge Statement"

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